## Amendments to the Specification:

## Replace the title on page 1 with the following new title:

-- DEFENSIN-ENCODING NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES DERIVED FROM NICOTIANA ALATA, USES THEREFOR AND TRANSGENIC PLANTS COMPRISING SAME --.

Replace the paragraph spanning from page 22, line 1 to page 23, line 19 with the following:

**Figure 10** is an alignment of the amino acid sequence of the mature domain of NaPdf1 with the amino acid sequences of the mature domain of other members of the plant defensin family. The N-terminal amino acid in the Rs-AFP1, Rs-AFP2, M1, M2A and M2B sequence which is represented by "pQ" is a pyroglutamic acid. The sequences are derived from the following sources:

FST: Gu et al. (1992; supra) (SEQ ID NO:25);

TPP3: Milligan and Gasser (1995; supra) (SEQ ID NO:26);

p322: Steikema et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 11: 255-269, 1988 (SEQ ID

NO:27);

PPT: Karunanandaa et al. (1994; supra) (SEQ ID NO:28);

SE60: Choi et al., Plant Physiology 101: 699-700, 1993; Choi et al.,

Mol. Gen. Genet. 246: 266-268, 1995 (SEQ ID NO:29);

y1-H: Mendez et al., Eur. J. Biochem. 194: 533-539, 1990 (SEQ ID

NO:30);

M2A, M1 and M2B: Neumann et al., Int. J. Protein & Peptide Research 47: 437-

446, 1996 (SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:35 and SEQ ID

NO:36, respectively);

PTH-St1 Pth-St1: Moreno et al., Eur. J. Biochem. 223: 135-139, 1995 (SEQ ID

NO:32);

Rs-AFP1 and Rs-AFP2: Terras et al., J. Biological Chemistry 267: 15301-15309,

1992; Terras et al., FEBS Letters 316: 233-240, 1993;

Terras et al., Plant Cell 7: 573-588, 1995; and Fant et al.,

The solution structure by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of Rs-AFP1, a plant

antifungal protein from radish seeds. In: LP Ingman, J

Jokissaari, J Lounila (eds), Abstracts of the 12th European

Experimental NMR Conference, p 247, 1994 (SEQ ID NO:33

and SEQ ID NO:34, respectively);

Collila et al., FEBS Letters 270: 191-194, 1990 (SEQ ID

NO:37);

v2-P: Collila et al., (1990; supra) (SEQ ID NO:38);

10kDa: Ishibashi et al., Plant Mol. Biol. 15: 59-64, <del>1992</del> 1990 (SEQ

ID NO:39);

Sla2, Sla3 and Sla1: Bloch and Richardson, FEBS Letters 279: 101-104, 1991

and Nitti et al., Eur. J. Biochem. 228: 250-256, 1995 (SEQ ID

NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41 and SEQ ID NO:43, respectively);

Dm-AMP2, Ah-AMP1,

y1-P:

Hs-AFP1, Dm-AMP1 and

Ct-AMP1: Osborn et al., FEBS Letters 368: 257-262, 1995 (SEQ ID

NO:42, SEQ ID NO:45, SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47 and

SEQ ID NO:49, respectively);

pl230 and P139: Chiang and Hagwiger, Mol. Plant-Microbe Interact. 4: 324-

331, 1991 (SEQ ID NO:44 and SEQ ID NO:48, respectively);

NeThio1 and NeThio2: Yamada et al., Plant Physiology 115: 314, 1997; (SEQ ID

NO:50 and SEQ ID NO:51); and

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NpThio1:

Komori et al., Plant Physiology 115: 314, 1997 (SEQ ID

NO:52).

## Replace the paragraph starting on page 71, line 27 with the following:

The 47 amino acids constituting the mature central domain of the NaPdf1 protein (SEQ ID NO:8) were also aligned with the corresponding amino acid sequences of the mature domains of other members of the plant defensin family (SEQ ID NO:25 to SEQ ID NO:49). Alignment was carried out using the computerized algorithm of ClustalW (<a href="http://pbil.ibcp.fr/cgi-bin/npsa\_automat.pl?page=/NPSA/npsa\_clustalw.html">http://pbil.ibcp.fr/cgi-bin/npsa\_automat.pl?page=/NPSA/npsa\_clustalw.html</a>). The results are set forth in Figure 10. For details of the relevant references from which each sequence was obtained, and for their individual sequence identifiers, refer to the figure legend.

## Replace the abstract on page 104 with the following.

-- The present invention provides nucleic acid molecules derived from *Nicotiana* alata, which encode defensin-like molecules. The present invention contemplates the use of such nucleic acid molecules in the generation of transgenic plants having resistance or at least reduced sensitivity to plant pests including insects, microorganisms, fungi and/or viruses. The transgenic plants provided by the present invention include monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants, and particularly include crop plants and ornamental flowering plants. --